

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH.

BY THE DISPATCH COMPANY

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FRIDAY.....OCTOBER 15, 1897.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR: JAMES HOGUE TYLER, of Pulaski county.

FOR LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR: EDWARD ECHOLS, of Staunton.

FOR ATTORNEY-GENERAL: ANDREW JACKSON MONTAGUE, of Pittsylvania.

LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS.

Legislative bodies are rarely, if ever, in advance of the people. The Congress, the General Assembly, and the City Council each waits to be urged forward by the public. It is therefore not strange that the municipal Legislature of Richmond has not been able to do much in the matter of street repairing or street cleaning.

As long as the public was content to see our principal streets ill-cleaned, and was not shocked at the sight of such sidewalks as that on Ninth street between Main and Franklin, it was not surprising that the Council should have given little heed to these matters. But now all that is changed. Our people are interested and are demanding better and cleaner streets. But the question is, How shall we be able to get them?

For our city to undertake the cost of repairing or rebuilding all of the sidewalks that are discreditable to us would be to require a vast expenditure. Yet this work must be done sooner or later. Richmond cannot afford to present a "down-at-the-heel" appearance, and either the mass of tax-payers must bear the expense, or it must be assessed upon abutting property-owners.

It is the usual thing in this country for cities to pursue the assessment plan, and that was the plan under which we conducted active operations until a few years back, when a series of whole questions was raised, in which the whole subject was greatly befogged. But now the coast is tolerably clear.

In the case of Violet's heirs vs. the City Council of Alexandria, decided by the Supreme Court of Appeals of Virginia on February 3, 1896, it is settled that special assessments may be levied on property benefited by local improvements on streets; such power of taxation being upheld, however, solely on the ground of peculiar benefits to the property taxed.

In this case the property-owner had not had a fair opportunity to contest the assessment, and the case was therefore decided against the city. In view of the decision in this case, an Act of Assembly was passed at its last session prescribing how such assessments may be made, how notice thereof must be given to the property-owner, and how he may appear, contest the assessment, appeal, &c.

So thoroughly, elaborately, and timely safeguarded are the rights of property-owners under this law, if proceedings were now instituted, say, against the owners of the property abutting upon Ninth street, we doubt if actual work in the renewal of the pavement there could be begun before next spring! Certainly, if the property-owners chose to resist the proceedings by all of the means placed within their reach, they could obtain a delay of that length. So it would seem that the Council ought to begin proceedings at once, where new sidewalks are notoriously needed.

In the present condition of business, we presume the City Council would not order brand-new sidewalks to be laid, except in front of unusually valuable property. As a rule, a little remodeling would make the present pavements last for many years to come. But in some cases further delay is impracticable. In the course of a few months there will be no pavement in spots on Ninth street. In Richmond to be put to shame in that way upon one of her great thoroughfares, or is the necessary renewal to be made? If it is to be made, by whom is it to be made? By the city? If not by the city, then why does not the City Council proceed to give notice of a special assessment as is required by the act of 1895-96?

What effect the decision in the Alexandria case will have upon the debt claimed to be due Richmond for local improvements made in the years gone by we know not. But we would as well face the situation now as later on. It would be suicidal for us to attempt to stand still,

and of all of our tax-payers, none less than owners of real estate can afford to let our streets, and particularly our sidewalks, run down to a lower degree of deterioration than at present.

Summing up the situation, it seems imperative that all such eyesores as that on Ninth street should be removed at once. For the sake of expedition, we would have the city do the work if it can do so without setting a dangerous precedent; but if, on this account, the city dare not venture upon the work, let it proceed as the law requires, to give instant notice of contemplated improvements there, and of its purpose to levy a special assessment to meet the cost thereof.

As to street cleaning: More street-sweeping machines are obviously needed, and the money ought to be spared to buy them and put them into use.

It is not an agreeable thing to have to bring up such questions as these. But it is a staring necessity. Richmond must continue to be progressive. We can't stand still; we must not consent to any backward step.

THE FATE OF CRETE.

Now that peace between Turkey and Greece has been declared, the question arises, What is to become of Crete, the original cause of all the rumpus? If we may judge from the way the Powers have broken faith with Greece in the matter of the peace negotiations between the Sultan and the Greeks, Crete's last estate promises to be worst than her first.

As respects the Græco-Turkish treaty, aside from ignoring the guarantees of the Berlin Congress, the concert have grossly and shamefully violated their pledges made to Greece at the outbreak of the war. They have allowed the Great Assassin to retain all the strategic advantages he asked for—strategic advantages that put him in position to crush Greece at any moment—and in contravention of the precedents of centuries have given the Turks permission to hold a Christian people in pawn, and that, too, for an amount it is probable they will never be able to pay.

Although at various times one or more of the Great Powers have, for the purpose of maintaining the European equilibrium or forestalling the aggression of some other Power or Powers, co-operated with Turkey in her wars, ever since 1453, when the crescent was planted over St. Sophia, the general policy of Christendom has been to treat the Turk as a barbarian interloper, who was finally to be driven out of Europe. For some two hundred years Turkey, even by the Powers with which she has had alliances on occasions, has been made to understand that she existed as a political organism, to be used by one or another of the Christian nations as exigencies might demand; that she had no actual treaty making rights of her own, and that a certainty of the future was that the clock would strike for her partition. It has been well said that it was left for the concert of the end of the nineteenth century to invite a Sultan of Turkey to sit down on terms of equality with Christian Powers at the conference table of civilization.

And Abdul Hamid, having been thus honored, took the head of the table and virtually dictated his own terms as regards the settlement with Greece. As respects Crete he now proposes that the affairs of the island shall be administered by a Turkish Governor appointed by himself, and that Turkish troops shall assist those of the Powers in restoring order. This would be in violation of his own pledges and the guarantees of the Powers to the Cretans. But as the Sultan knows that the same jealousy of one of another of the Powers, that prevented their settling the Cretan trouble in its incipency, and enabled him to have his own way as regards the Græco-Turkish treaty, still exists, there is every reason to fear another disgraceful knuckling to him by the concert. What might be the final result of this knuckling one shudders to contemplate, considering the past cruelties of the unspeakable Turk in Crete, the immunity Turkey has enjoyed from punishment for the Armenian atrocities, and the clear those atrocities have given Abdul Hamid throughout Islam.

The ninth statistical report of the Interstate Commerce Commission for the year ended June 30, 1896, says that 151 roads, representing 30,475 miles of operated mileage, were in the hands of receivers on June 30, 1896, a decrease of eighteen from the previous year. The total railway mileage on June 30, 1896, was 132,776, an increase of 2,319 for the year; Georgia showing the largest increase—viz., 233 miles. The number of locomotives in service was 35,950 and of cars of all classes 1,297,649, an increase of 231 locomotives and 27,088 cars. The railway employees of the United States aggregated \$86,299. Their aggregate compensation amounted to over 60 per cent. of the total operating expenses of all railways, a slight decrease from the preceding year. The amount of railway capital, it is shown, was \$10,566,833,771, which, assigned on a mileage basis, shows a capital of \$49.60 per mile of line and, if current liabilities be included as part of the capital, \$53.93 per mile of line. The amount of capital stock was \$5,226,527,269, of which \$959,996,692 was preferred. A fraction of over 70 per cent. of the capital stock paid the dividends. The total dividends amounted to \$57,060,871.

Passengers carried during the year numbered 31,712,771, an increase of over 4,000,000 compared with the previous year, which, however, showed a decrease of \$1,266,837 as compared with 1894. Freight tonnage amounted to 765,891,385, the largest ever reported for railways in this country and an increase of nearly 70,000,000. Gross earnings amounted to \$1,160,163,376, an increase of nearly \$75,000,000, resulting in a net income of over \$33,000,000 larger than the previous year.

Nearly 1,900 employees were killed and almost 30,000 injured during the year, an increase of 50 in those killed and over 1,000 in the number injured. One hundred and eighty-one passengers were killed and nearly 3,000 injured. The number of persons "other than employees and passengers" killed was 4,066 and those injured 5,846. These figures include casualties to persons reported as trespassers. For every 441 men employed on railways 1 was killed, and for every 23 men employed 1 was injured. One trainman was killed for each 152 trainmen employed and 1 trainman was injured for each 10 men employed. The number of passengers carried for 1 passenger killed was 2,827,474 and the number of passengers carried for one passenger injured was 178,132.

How about securing a connection with that new early morning mail train from New York to Washington, so as to get our morning mail from the metropolis still earlier than at present—in fact, several hours earlier?

SOME PROBABILITIES.

A Habana special says that the Official Gazette publishes an edict signed by the military judge, calling upon Evangelina Cesioy Cisneros to present herself for a term of fifteen days in jail and ordering all civil and military authorities to endeavor to apprehend her, and, if captured, to send her to Habana jail. The probabilities are decidedly in favor of Miss Cisneros not presenting herself for punishment under the edict. Moreover, it is exceedingly probable that no officer will attempt her arrest. Another probability is that the court would find itself very much embarrassed if either of these things should occur.

Indeed, the suspicion is every day gaining strength that the Spanish authorities regard the departure of Miss Cisneros as a most happy riddance, and there are not a few persons mean enough to insinuate that the gallant knight of the quill who effected her rescue, and Weyler or his representatives, would not come to blows over the matter were they to meet. In short, there is a very broad intimation that the whole matter was a "put-up job" to help the Spanish authorities out of a very awkward predicament.

For the honor of American journalism, we hope this is not the case, but it must be admitted that on the theory of probabilities, the intimation would appear to have some force. At the same time, it must also be admitted that if the knight of the quill in question is not the object of envy and of unjust suspicion, his exploit was a most daring one.

THEIR BATTLE CRY.

"Hurrah for Hanna and honest elections!"

This is, or ought to be, the battle-cry of the opponents of the Virginia Democratic party.

When we remember how many white men in this State were last year coerced or intimidated into voting against Bryan, it would seem that the friends and supporters of Hanna's methods in Virginia would keep silent about "honest elections," but they will not.

Well, let them insist upon honest elections. We may safely pledge our people to secure and maintain a greater degree of honesty, fairness, and decency in elections than obtained under the Hanna-ocratic regime.

But how people can praise Hanna's work and then denounce Democratic dishonesty we cannot understand.

The Washington Star says: "War against an armed foe is terrible, and is always intended to be, but war against the helpless, such as General Weyler has been waging against the non-combatants in Cuba is without a vestige of excuse among civilized people." All of which is true. But doesn't the Star remember the famous, or rather infamous, Order No. 11, issued by General Ewing in Missouri, during the war between the States in this country, by which the women and children of a large rural section of that State were driven into the cities and their homes razed? Has it forgotten that General Hunter burned the houses of the women and children in Virginia over their heads, or General Sheridan's heartless report about his work in the Valley, or the twenty miles wide swath of fire and rapine that General Sherman cut through Georgia, and his order driving the women and children of the Confederate soldiers of Atlanta out of that city and into the desolate wilderness into which he had transformed a large portion of that State? The administration's thick and thin supporter in Washington should know that it is not wise for people who live in glass houses to throw stones.—The Alexandria Gazette.

Yes, and the Gazette might have added that General Grant's inhumane order forbidding the exchange of prisoners probably cost more lives than have been lost in the Cuban war. Talking about "war against the helpless," who could have been more helpless than the thousands whom Grant left to sicken and die in military prisons?

The Spaniards and Cubans may not be conducting a very civilized warfare, but it will well bear comparison with many things done for "Old Glory" and to "save the Union."

The Tredegar Company made its first shipment of projectiles yesterday under its contract with the government. Its work has been carefully inspected by army officers and pronounced first class.

With the Tredegar, the Locomotive Works, and the Old Dominion Iron- and Nail-Works all tolerably busy, the outlook for the iron trade in this city seems better than in a long time past.

Ticket or no ticket, that is the question with McKinley as regards the Republicans in Virginia. The Lyons and the Lambs are together, he perceives, but can he afford to disapprove the course of the Hanna hirelings, so to speak?

The single-tax theory is now before the Missouri courts in the shape of a protest against personal taxes. Henry George's political prominence inevitably brings his pet political-economic idea into prominence along with it.

The proposition now being made in some quarters to shorten the college course suggests the unalterable fact that there is no quick road, any more than there is a royal road, to learning.

A Decker-Cisneros combination would be a regular three-decker on the sea of the lecture platform.

A Boston Idea.

(Boston Journal.)

A literary man in Boston has a son who is to him as the apple of his eye. The other day he noticed a square hole in the trousers of his well-beloved, a striking hole just above the knee. "How is this?" asked the sire. And the boy replied: "You know I have two pairs, my best and the others. I couldn't tell them apart, so I cut a hole in the best, and now I can tell 'em and know which to put on."

Nothing Done About Him.

(Detroit Free Press.)

"What, no telephone?" asked one of the regular callers at the drugstore. "Why did you have it taken out?"

"Most of the people in the neighborhood got to using it to order drugs from other stores. I guess I can grasp a business idea once in awhile."

Explained.

(Washington Star.)

"Charley," said young Mrs. Torkins, "I have made a discovery."

"I hope I haven't anything about athletics," replied her husband, apprehensively.

"It is, though. I know now why nature doesn't put any hair on the heads of young children. It is to keep them from becoming foot-ball players too early in life."

Convicted of Forgery in Norfolk.

NORFOLK, VA., October 14.—(Special.) Edward M. Dulaney, a young man of promise, and a member of a wealthy Maryland family, was to-day convicted of forgery by a jury in the Corporation Court, and sentenced to two years in the penitentiary. Two other indictments for the same crime were quashed. At the expiration of his sentence the authorities

of Washington, D. C., will claim him on a charge of forgery. Dulaney's crime here was committed while he was intoxicated. He forged the name of C. E. Blades, of Elizabeth City, N. C., to three drafts, which were cashed by Walke & Williams, of this city.

DEMOCRATIC MEETINGS.

Appointments for Public Speaking for Several Weeks Ahead.

Democratic State Committee, Speakers and times and places of speaking are announced as follows:

J. HOGUE TYLER.

Alexandria city, October 15th (night). Rockingham Court, October 15th (night). Accomac Court, October 25th (night). Eastville, October 25th (night). Mathews, October 25th (night). Middlesex Court, October 27th (night). Gloucester, October 27th (night). Norfolk city, October 27th (night). Isle of Wight, October 27th (night). Stafford Court, October 27th (night). Carroll Court, October 15th (night). Independence, Grayson, October 19th (night). Radford, October 21st (night). Blackstone, October 23d (night). Augusta Court, October 25th (night). Basic City, October 25th (night). Rockbridge Court, November 1st (night).

THOMAS S. MARTIN.

Rockingham Court, October 15th (night). EDWARD ECHOLS.

Smythe Court, October 18th (night). JOHN W. DANIEL.

Buchanan, October 15th (night). Wayneboro', October 15th (night). Pulaski Circuit Court, October 15th (night). Big Stone Gap, October 20th (night). Gate City, October 21st (night). Lynchburg, October 23d (night). Halifax Court, October 25th (night).

JOHN LAMB.

Ettricks, October 15th (night). Beach, October 16th (3 o'clock). Goodland Court, October 18th (night). Wesley Chapel, October 19th (3 o'clock). Mattawana, October 19th (night). Charles City Court, October 21st (night). Skinsquarter, October 23d (3 o'clock).

H. D. FLOOD.

Amherst Court, October 15th (night). Cartersville, October 23d (night). Nelson Court, October 25th (night). Cumberland Court, October 25th (night).

JAMES HAY.

Rockingham Court, October 15th (night). Page Court, October 15th (night). Shenandoah, October 15th (night). Albemarle Court, November 1st (night).

PETER J. OTEY.

Roonoke Court, October 15th (night). Mt. Carmel, October 23d (3 o'clock). South Boston, October 23d (night). GEORGE W. M. HIS.

Stanardsville, October 27th (2 o'clock). Ruckersville, October 27th (night). S. B. EGGLE.

McMullens, October 15th (night). Fletchers, October 26th (night). Quince, Greene county, October 29th (night). Lydie, Greene county, October 30th (night).

W. A. JONES.

Fairfax Court, October 15th (night). Berryville, October 20th (night). Fairfax Court, October 25th (night). Mathews, October 25th (night). Gloucester, October 25th (night).

S. H. LETCHER.

Highland Court, October 15th (night). W. E. LEMMON.

Culpeper Court, October 15th (night). Stafford Court, October 20th (night). Orange Court, October 25th (night). Prince William Court, November 1st (night).

J. N. STUBBS.

Eastville, October 15th (night). Accomac Court, October 25th (night). Mathews, October 25th (night). Middlesex Court, October 27th (night). Gloucester, October 27th (night). Norfolk city, October 27th (night).

W. F. RHEA.

Newport, Giles county, October 23d (night). Buchanan Court, October 25th (night).

S. E. JONES.

Ronsacks, October 15th (night). Roonoke Court, October 15th (night). Lethia, October 25th (night).

QUINCY A. ALABAND.

McMullens, Greene county, October 15th (night). Rochelle, October 25th (night). Fletchers, October 25th (night). Wolfstown, October 27th (night). Quince, October 27th (night). Lydie, October 30th (night).

B. W. L. BLANTON.

Cartersville, October 23d (night). A. A. LIPSCOMB.

Fairfax Court, October 15th (night). MARYS JONES.

York Court, October 15th (night). Willeburg, Charlotte, October 16th (night). Keyville, Charlotte, October 16th (night).

J. TAYLOR ELLIYON, Chairman. Joseph Button, Secretary.

Love vs. Duets.

(Truth.)

The violins were laughing all the while—My german favor was white Pierrot; And, with the most intoxicating smile, She gave me Columbine—his girl, you know.

We danced a grave and stately measure—She wooed my heart by every subtle wile; And with her eyes she vowed she loved me, too!

The violins were laughing all the while— I said: "Were you a picture on a tile, I'd worship you from morn till night!" The violins were laughing all the while—"Were I a picture, sir," she said, "you might!"

And yet we sat alone upon a stair—Oh, smallest, whitest hands, so warm! Though both knew that we oughtn't to be there—Not I, Pierrot, nor she, my Columbine.

For when her mother's carriage blocked the way, It was not I who led her down the aisle; It was the man who married her to-day—And violins were laughing all the while. TOM HALL.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures

Permanently Cures